

Construction Material

General

Soils are rated as sources for roadfill, topsoil, sand, and gravel. Suitability ratings of good, fair, or poor are given for soils used as a source of roadfill and topsoil. Ratings of probable and improbable are given for sand and gravel. A rating of probable means that on the basis of the available evidence, the source material is likely to be in or below the soil. A rating of improbable means that the source material is unlikely to be in or below the soil. The ratings for sand and gravel do not consider the quality of the source material because quality depends on how the source material is to be used.

Roadfill

Roadfill consists of soil material that is excavated from its original position and used in road embankments elsewhere. The evaluations for roadfill are for low embankments that generally are less than 6 feet in height and are less exacting in design than high embankments such as those along superhighways. The rating is given for the whole soil, from the surface to a depth of about 5 feet, based on the assumption that soil horizons will be mixed in loading, dumping, and spreading. Soils are rated as to the amount of material available for excavation, the ease of excavation, and how well the material performs after it is in place.

Sand

Sand as a construction material is usually defined as particles ranging in size from 0.074 mm (sieve #200) to 4.75 mm (sieve #4) in diameter. Sand is used in great quantities in many kinds of construction. Specifications for each purpose vary widely. The intent of this rating is to show only the probability of finding material in suitable quantity. The suitability of the sand for specific purposes is not evaluated. If the lowest layer of the soil contains sand, the soil is rated as a probable source regardless of thickness. The assumption is that the sand layer below the depth of observation exceeds the minimum thickness.

Gravel

Gravel as a construction material is defined as particles ranging in size from 4.76 mm (sieve #4) to 76 mm (3 inches) in diameter. Gravel is used in great quantities in many kinds of construction. Specifications for each purpose vary widely. The intent of this rating is to show only the probability of finding material in suitable quantity. The suitability of the gravel for specific purposes is not evaluated. If the lowest layer of the soil contains gravel, the soil is rated as a probable source regardless of thickness. The assumption is that the gravel layer below the depth of observation exceeds the minimum thickness.

Topsoil

The term "topsoil" has several meanings. As used here, the term describes soil material used to cover an area so as to improve soil conditions for establishment and maintenance of adapted vegetation. Generally, the upper part of the soil, which is richest in organic matter, is most desirable; however, material excavated from deeper layers is also used. In this rating, the upper 40 inches of soil material is evaluated for use as topsoil. In the borrow area, the material below 40 inches is evaluated for its suitability for plant growth after the upper 40 inches is removed. The soil properties that are used to rate the soil as topsoil are those that affect plant growth, the ease of excavation, loading, and spreading, and those that affect the reclamation of the borrow area.

See the National Soil Survey Handbook, Part 620, for criteria used in rating specific uses

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS**York County**

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Soil name and map symbol	Roadfill	Sand	Gravel	Topsoil
AdB ADAMS	Good.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Poor: too sandy.
AdC ADAMS	Good.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Poor: too sandy.
AdD ADAMS	Poor: slope.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Poor: slope, too sandy.
AgB ADAMS	Good.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Poor: too sandy.
URBAN LAND	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.
AlB ALLAGASH	Good.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim.
AlC ALLAGASH	Good.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim.
Ba BEACHES	Poor: wetness.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Poor: area reclaim, excess salt, too
BcB BECKET	Good.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: small stones.

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BcC BECKET	Good.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: small stones.
BcD BECKET	Fair: slope.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: slope, small stones.
BeB BECKET	Good.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: small stones.
BeC BECKET	Good.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: small stones.
BeD BECKET	Fair: slope.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: slope, small stones.
Bm BIDDEFORD	Poor: low strength, wetness.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: too clayey, wetness.
BrB BRAYTON	Poor: wetness.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones,
WESTBURY	Poor: wetness.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones,
BsB BRAYTON	Poor: wetness.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones,

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BsB WESTBURY	Poor: wetness.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones,
BuB BUXTON	Poor: low strength, wetness.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: too clayey, wetness.
BuC BUXTON	Poor: low strength.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: too clayey.
BuD BUXTON	Poor: low strength.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: slope, too clayey.
Ch CHOCORUA	Poor: wetness.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Poor: excess humus, wetness.
CoB COLTON	Good.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: small stones, too sandy.
CoC COLTON	Good.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: small stones, too sandy.
CoD COLTON	Fair: slope.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: slope, small stones, too sandy.
CoE COLTON	Poor: slope.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: slope, small stones, too sandy.

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CrB CROGHAN	Fair: wetness.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Fair: small stones, too sandy.
CuB CROGHAN	Fair: wetness.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Fair: small stones, too sandy.
URBAN LAND	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.
Dm DUMPS	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.
EmB ELMWOOD	Poor: low strength.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: too clayey.
EmC ELMWOOD	Poor: low strength.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: too clayey.
HeB HERMON	Fair: large stones.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones, too
HeC HERMON	Fair: large stones.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones, too
HeD HERMON	Fair: large stones, slope.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones, too

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HmB HERMON	Fair: large stones.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones, too
HmC HERMON	Fair: large stones.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones, too
HmD HERMON	Fair: large stones, slope.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones, too
HnC HERMON	Fair: large stones.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones, too
HnE HERMON	Poor: slope.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones, too
LnB LYMAN	Poor: depth to rock.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: area reclaim, depth to rock, small
LnC LYMAN	Poor: depth to rock.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: area reclaim, depth to rock, small
LnD LYMAN	Poor: depth to rock.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: depth to rock, slope, small stones.
LyB LYMAN	Poor: depth to rock.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: depth to rock, small stones.

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Soil name and map symbol	Roadfill	Sand	Gravel	Topsoil
LyB ROCK OUTCROP	Poor: depth to rock.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: depth to rock.
LyC LYMAN	Poor: depth to rock.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: depth to rock, small stones.
ROCK OUTCROP	Poor: depth to rock.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: depth to rock.
LyE LYMAN	Poor: depth to rock, slope.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: depth to rock, slope, small stones.
ROCK OUTCROP	Poor: depth to rock, slope.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: depth to rock, slope.
MaB MADAWASKA	Fair: wetness.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Fair: small stones, thin layer.
MrB MARLOW	Good.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: small stones.
MrC2 MARLOW	Good.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: small stones.
MrD2 MARLOW	Fair: slope.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: slope, small stones.

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MvB MARLOW	Good.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: small stones.
MvC MARLOW	Good.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: small stones.
MvD MARLOW	Fair: slope.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: slope, small stones.
Na NAUMBURG	Poor: wetness.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Poor: too sandy, wetness.
On ONDAWA	Good.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Fair: small stones, thin layer.
PeB PERU	Fair: wetness.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: small stones.
Pg PITS	Good.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones, too
Po PODUNK	Fair: wetness.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Fair: area reclaim, small stones, thin
WINOOSKI	Fair: wetness.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Fair: too sandy.

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Ra				
RAYNHAM	Poor: wetness.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: wetness.
RoC				
ROCK OUTCROP	Poor: depth to rock.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: depth to rock.
LYMAN	Poor: depth to rock.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: depth to rock, small stones.
RoE				
ROCK OUTCROP	Poor: depth to rock, slope.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: depth to rock, slope.
LYMAN	Poor: depth to rock, slope.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: depth to rock, slope, small stones.
Ru				
RUMNEY	Poor: wetness.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: area reclaim, small stones,
Sa				
SACO	Poor: wetness.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: wetness.
Sc				
SCANTIC	Poor: low strength, wetness.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: too clayey, wetness.
SeB				
SCIO	Poor: frost action.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Good.

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SeC SCIO	Poor: frost action.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Fair: slope.
SeD SCIO	Fair: low strength, slope.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: slope.
Sg SEBAGO	Poor: wetness.	Improbable: excess humus.	Improbable: excess humus.	Poor: excess humus, wetness.
SkB SKERRY	Fair: wetness.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: small stones.
SkC SKERRY	Fair: wetness.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: small stones.
SrB SKERRY	Fair: wetness.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: small stones.
SrC SKERRY	Fair: wetness.	Probable.	Probable.	Poor: small stones.
Su SULFIHEMISTS	Poor: low strength, wetness.	Improbable: excess humus.	Improbable: excess humus.	Poor: excess humus, excess salt, wetness.
Ud UDIPSAMMENTS	Good.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Poor: too sandy.

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Ud				
DUNE LAND	Good.	Probable.	Improbable: too sandy.	Poor: too sandy.
Ur				
URBAN LAND	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.
UsA				
URBAN LAND	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.	Limitation: variable.
SCANTIC				
	Poor: low strength, wetness.	Improbable: excess fines.	Improbable: excess fines.	Poor: too clayey, wetness.
Va				
VASSALBORO	Poor: wetness.	Improbable: excess humus.	Improbable: excess humus.	Poor: excess humus, wetness.
Vp				
VASSALBORO	Poor: wetness.	Improbable: excess humus.	Improbable: excess humus.	Poor: excess humus, wetness.
Wa				
WASKISH	Poor: wetness.	Improbable: excess humus.	Improbable: excess humus.	Poor: excess humus, too acid, wetness.